

I claim:

1. An armrest assembly comprising:

5 elongated riser means mounted slidably within base securing means, said riser means being fixed at one of its ends to swivel base means having armrest means attached thereto for universal movement.

2. The armrest assembly according to claim 1, wherein said universal movement includes rotating said armrest means X degrees about said swivel base means.

10 3. The armrest assembly according to claim 2, wherein X degrees is between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

4. The armrest assembly according to claim 3, wherein in said universal movement
15 further includes tilting said armrest means Y degrees about said swivel base means.

5. The armrest assembly according to claim 4, wherein Y degrees is between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

20 6. The armrest assembly according to claim 5, wherein said universal movement still further includes turning said armrest means Z degree about said swivel base means.

7. The armrest assembly according to claim 6, wherein said Z degrees is between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

25 8. The armrest assembly according to claim 1, wherein said universal movement includes tilting, rotating and turning said armrest means in any one of three different axis between about 0 degrees and about 180 degrees.

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9. A phlebotomy armrest to help facilitate drawing blood from the arm of a patient, comprising:

an armrest supported from below by a universal adjustment arrangement to place the arm of the patient in any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to a supporting surface.

10. The phlebotomy armrest according to claim 9, wherein said universal adjustment arrangement rotates and turns about a ball unit having a control knob for securing said armrest in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to a supporting surface.

11. The phlebotomy armrest according to claim 10 wherein said ball unit is mounted on a distal end portion of a riser that travels along a rectilinear path of travel to raise and lower said armrest to further facilitate placing the arm of the patient in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to a supporting surface.

12. The phlebotomy armrest according to claim 11, wherein said riser is secured to a single load control lever that facilitates raising and lowering said riser and locking said raiser in position so that said armrest is placed in said any one of a plurality of desired position planes relative to a supporting surface.

13. A phlebotomy armrest assembly, comprising:

base securing means for attachment to a supporting surface, said base securing means having elevation control means for engaging a riser and for locking said riser at a desired extension length relative to said supporting surface;

universal lock down attachment means mounted to a distal end portion of said riser for establishing a desired position plane relative to said riser; and

slider means supported from below by said universal lock down attachment means for supporting from below an extremity and for immobilizing said extremity in said desired position plane.

14. A method of positioning the arm of a patient for a phlebotomy procedure, comprising:
providing an armrest assembly having an armrest mounted to a swivel base unit;
turning said armrest to a desired position, wherein said desired position is between
about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said swivel base unit;

5 rotating said armrest to another desired position, wherein said another desired
position is between about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said swivel base
unit; and

tilting said armrest to yet another desired position, wherein said another desired
position is between about 0 degrees to about 180 degrees relative to said swivel base
10 unit.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

locking said armrest in said desired position, in said another desired position, and
in said yet another desired position simultaneously.

16. An armrest assembly comprising:

a base unit having a clamping arrangement for helping to secure said base unit to
a stationary surface;

20 a housing unit mounted to an armrest platform and having a swivel unit mounted
therein, said swivel unit including a split ball arrangement that facilitates rotational
movement, turning movement, and tilting movement; and

an elongated riser mounted within said base unit and having its distal end mounted
within said split ball arrangement to facilitate rotational, turning, and tilting movement of
said armrest platform relative to said stationary surface.

25 17. The armrest assembly according to claim 16, wherein said split ball arrangement
includes a stationary ball, a moveable ball and a locking arrangement that secures said
moveable ball in a fixed stationary position relative to said stationary ball.